

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Butte Field Office
106 North Parkmont
Butte, MT 59701**

**Finding of No Significant Impact
Environmental Assessment DOI-BLM-MT-B070-2014-0029-EA**

This unsigned Finding of No Significant Impact and the attached DOI-BLM-MT-B070-2014-0029-EA for the Butte Field Office were available for public review and comment for 30 days beginning on May 19, 2014.

Impact identification and analysis of approving the project proposal and/or alternatives(s) has been completed. Environmental analysis has been conducted based on available inventory and monitoring data files. The proposed action conforms with and is within the scope of the land use decisions described in the Butte Resource Management Plan, with Record of Decision approved April, 2009.

Based on my review of the updated EA and supporting documents, I have determined that the project, including the implementation of required stipulations/mitigating measures, is not a major federal action and will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment, individually or cumulatively with other actions in the general area. No potential environmental effects associated with the project meet the definition of significance in context or intensity as defined in 40 CFR 1508.27, nor do potential effects exceed those effects described in the Butte RMP/FEIS. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required. In the event that parcels are leased or, where the suspension would be lifted, resultant from this decision, any future proposed development on such parcels would be subject to additional site-specific NEPA analysis and documentation.

The decision to approve or deny the proposed action and preparation of a signed Finding of No Significant Impact with rationale, as appropriate, will be finalized and released after the 30-day protest period for the oil and gas lease sale scheduled October 21, 2014, and before lease issuance.

Recommended by _____ Date _____
Richard M. Hotaling, Field Manager/District Manager

Approved by _____ Date _____
James Albano, Deputy State Director, Division of Resources